

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

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FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 463

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, UNDP, SW

SUBJECT: SWEDISH IDEAS ON FUTURE ROLE OF UNDP: FEW

REF: STATE 86320

1. EMBASSY ECONOFF DISCUSSED UNDP WITH SIDA OFFICIALS IN SOME DEPTH. THEY MADE AVAILABLE PENULTIMATE DRAFT OF MEMORANDUM WHICH SWEDISH DELEGATION SHOULD NOW HAVE PRESENTED TO UNDP ADMINISTRATOR (BEING POUCED TO WASHINGTON). DATE OF DRAFT WAS APRIL 12.

2. SWEDES ARE PRIMARILY CONCERNED WITH FINANCING PROBLEMS. THEIR PAPER CONCENTRATES FIRST ON NEED TO SECURE AGREED LEVEL OF CONTRIBUTIONS FOR 1977-81 PERIOD. SECONDLY, HOWEVER, SWEDES WISH TO PUSH EFFORTS TO ENGAGE PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS IN ACHIEVING A NEGOTIATED MULTI-YEAR CONTRIBUTION TARGET. SUCCESS IN IDA REPLENISHMENT NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD ENCOURAGE THIS EFFORT AND PROVIDE MODEL.

3. SWEDISH PAPER SUGGESTS QUESTION OF NON-CONVERTIBLE CURRENCY CONTRIBUTIONS HAS BECOME POLITICAL ISSUE WHICH
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SHOULD BE SETTLED BY WAY OF INFORMAL CONTACTS BETWEEN "GOVERNMENTS IN QUESTION."

4. SWEDES ARE ALSO CONCERNED AT INCREASING USE OF EXTRA-BUDGETARY FINANCING OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS THROUGH UN.

5. IN AREA OF GENERAL CRITICISM, SWEDES HOLD UNDP'S PRINCIPAL PROBLEM IS ITS LACK OF PROFILE OR CHARACTER: "IT IS EVERYTHING TO EVERYONE." IN ADDITION, HOWEVER, SOME UNDP DONORS ARE DISENCHANTED WITH COUNTRY PROGRAMMING SYSTEM. SWEDES SUGGEST ONE APPROACH TO PROBLEM IS TO REGULARIZE MULTIBI FINANCING SYSTEM BEFORE SHEER VOLUME OF SUCH FUNDS WITHIN UNDP LEADS TO (UNDESIRABLE) PATTERNS OF THEIR USE. SECOND, UNDP MUST ACQUIRE A MORE MARKED PROFILE. SWEDES BELIEVE THIS MEANS MOVING AWAY FROM NET DRAIN OF RESOURCES TO RECIPIENTS IN EUROPE AND OTHERS AT UPPER END OF PER CAPITA GNP SCALE IN FAVOR OF CHANNELING MORE AID TO POOREST RECIPIENTS. ALTHOUGH NOT INCLUDED IN SWEDISH PAPER, SWEDES ALSO BELIEVE CONCEPT OF "POOREST" MUST BE EXPANDED BEYOND CURRENT LIST. THIRDLY, SWEDES BELIEVE COUNTRY LEVEL PROGRAMMING MUST BE SHARPER. UNFORTUNATELY, NO REALLY CONSTRUCTIVE SOLUTION IS OFFERED ON HOW THIS LAST GOAL MIGHT BE ACHIEVED. WHEN EMBOFF ASKED ABOUT EVALUATION AND FEEDBACK IN THIS CONTEXT (PARA 5(A) OF RFTEL), SWEDES CLEARLY BELIEVED CURRENT TRIPARTITE REVIEW SYSTEM TO BE USFFICIENT AND HAD NO IDEAS CONCERNING APPLICATION OF PAST EXPERIENCE TO PROJECTS UNDER CONSIDERATION.

6. QUESTION OF UNDP ROLE AND COORDINATION OF OVERALL UN DEVELOPMENT EFFORTS OCCUPIES SMALL PART OF SWEDISH PAPER, BUT EMBOFF DID DISCUSS PROBLEM AT LENGTH. SWEDES BELIEVE SOLUTION IS APPOINTMENT OF UNDP REP AS PERSONAL "AMBASSADOR" OF SECGEN (JIU/REP/76/10).
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THEY WOULD THEN LIKE TO SEE REPS OF SPECIALIZED AGENCIES IN THE FIELD BROUGHT INTO ONE OFFICE UNDER THIS "UN DEVELOPMENT AMBASSADOR." REPS OF THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES SHOULD BE PRESENT IN UNDP HEADQUARTERS. CAN UNDP FIELD OFFICES COPE WITH INCREASED NEEDS OF EFFECTIVE COORDINATION IF ACHIEVED? THE SWEDES CANNOT ANSWER THIS ONE, BUT ARE OPPOSED TO ANY FURTHER "BUREAUCRATIC BUILDUP."

7. WHEN DISCUSSING INCREASING UNDP RESOURCES, SWEDES WERE EMPHASITICALLY AGAINST ASKING FOR ADDITIONAL OPEC CONTRIBUTIONS. SWEDES FEEL WE HAVE BEEN GOING TO THE WELL TOO OFTEN. MOST CERTAINLY THOSE NATIONS WHO ARE NOW A NET DRAIN ON UNDP FINANCIAL RESOURCES AND SIMULTANEOUSLY IN THE UPPER RANGE OF GNP PER CAPITA SHOULD BE REQUIRED TO PAY FOR TECHNOLOGICAL ASSISTANCE THEY RECEIVE. WOULD THIS NOT MEAN A DIMINUTION OF SCARCE MANPOWER RESOURCES EVEN IF REIMBURSEMENT WERE RECEIVED? SHRUG. WOULD MAJOR STRUCTURAL AND

OPERATIONAL CHANGES NOT BE INEVITABLE IN UNDP? TWO SHRUGS. SWEDES ARE AGREED, HOWEVER, THAT THERE SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE A SINGLE GENERAL UNDP FUND. (SEE COMMENTS ON MULTIBI FINANCING ABOVE.)

8. SWEDES ARE OPPOSED TO A STANDING INTER-GOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE AND A SINGLE YEARLY SESSION OF THE COUNCIL BECAUSE THEY FEEL MANY LDCS WOULD THEN FEEL LEFT OUT: E.G., INDIA WHERE BUREAUCRATS MUST JUSTIFY TRIPS TO UN ACCORDING TO FREQUENCY OF VISITS. MORE IMPORTANT TO SWEDES IS DANGER THAT WEALTHY NATIONS WHO CAN AFFORD TO KEEP STRONG PERMANENT DELEGATIONS IN NEW YORK WOULD GAIN DISPROPORTIONATE VOICE IN INTERIM DECISIONS.

9. BELIEVE SWEDES CAN BE MOVED IN SOME AREAS IF WE HAVE US POSITION BEFORE 24TH GC SESSION, BUT DETAILED KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITY TO DO NECESSARY STAFF WORK ON LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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VARIOUS SUGGESTIONS IS NOT HIGH IN GOVERNMENT.
PERRY

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Message Attributes

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